

**Weekly Status & Information Report:
Week of March 31 - April 4, 2008**

1. **County Budget Hearings:** The County Council will be holding public hearings on its proposed FY09 Operating Budget next week. Hearings will be held on April 7, 8, 9 and 10 at 7:00 pm with an additional hearing on April 9 at 1:30 pm. All hearings will take place in the 3rd floor hearing room of the County Council Office Building in Rockville. To sign up to testify, call 240-777-7931. Mayor Bruce Williams will be testifying on behalf of the City of Takoma Park on Tuesday, April 8. *(Deputy City Manager)*

2. **Takoma Langley Sector Plan (Ward 6 and 2):** As part of the community outreach program, consultants have trained residents, business owners, and non-profit community group members not already in leadership positions to improve leadership capacity in the Takoma/Langley Crossroads area. Over the next few weeks a series of meetings will be organized by these new leaders with the assistance of the Planning Commission and City staff to give the community background on the project and obtain feedback. For more information on this project please see www.mncppc.org/tlc or call (301) 891-7205. *(Housing and Community Development)*

3. **New Businesses in Old Town (Ward 1):** Several new businesses have opened or are opening in Old Town including two dance studios; a yoga studio; a children's clothing, toy and literature store; an eco-boutique, and a pizza parlor. Check out some of the new businesses on Earth Day at the Takoma Junction celebration with music, ice cream, balloons and more. For more information contact (240) 253-4229. *(Housing and Community Development)*

4. **Volunteers needed! Clean up day April 19th:** Main Street Takoma Design Committee needs your help to sweep, weed, clean off graffiti and otherwise spruce up Old Takoma. To volunteer please call (240) 253-4229. This is a Student Service Learning eligible activity. Meet at 9 a.m. at Takoma Junction, Laurel Avenue or 4th St, NW. *(Housing and Community Development)*

5. **New Wayfinding and Gateway Signs:** The City began installation of new gateway and area identification signs and business area pedestrian map kiosks this week. Installation is scheduled to be completed by April 11th. *(Housing and Community Development)*

6. Officers & Staff in Meetings:

- On April 1, Sgt. Skibicki, Disp. Angelina Cannatella and Ms. Plevy met with the Citizens on Patrol for training in safety and conformity in patrolling neighborhoods in Takoma Park.
- On April 4, Chief Ricucci met with Chief King of the City of Gaithersburg Police Department to discuss mutual issues and concerns. *(Police)*

7. **Officers in Training:** On March 31, Capt. Ed Coursey attended the Montgomery County Emergency Management Group Training and Exercise Committee meeting. *(Police)*

8. **Traffic Enforcement:** Officers conducted at least 84 traffic stops, which resulted in citations, four (4) vehicle impounds and two (2) DUI arrests.

During the week of March 28-April 4, the following details were completed

- 7100 block of New Hampshire Avenue (speeding): conducted a (2) hour detail and issued five (5) state citations.
- 7300 - 7600 block of New Hampshire Avenue (speeding): conducted a four and two (2) hour detail and issued five (5) state citations.
- 7600 block of New Hampshire Avenue (speeding): a) conducted a (2) hour detail and issued five (5) state citations and two (2) Equipment Repair Orders; and, b) conducted a thirty (30) minute detail and issued seven (7) state citations.
- 1100 block of University Blvd (speeding): conducted a thirty (30) minute detail and no warnings or citations were issued. *(Police)*

9. The Newsletter: The April edition of the City Newsletter should have been delivered to all households this past week. Residents who did not receive their newsletter are encouraged to call the Communications office at 301-891-7118 or email LonniM@takomagov.org so we can follow up with the post office. The Newsletter is also available for reading online at the following link:
<http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/news/newsletter/2008/april08.pdf>. *(City TV)*

10. Future Changes in TV: Communications Manager Lonni Moffet attended the NATOA Legal Conference this week. Among the current developments is the upcoming Digital Transition. By law, American television stations will end all analog broadcasts on February 17, 2009 and begin broadcasting exclusively in a digital format. Television sets connected to cable, satellite or a telephone company video service provider should not be affected, and will continue to receive broadcast programming after that date. But TV sets that are not connected to cable or satellite, or do not have a built-in digital tuner, will need a converter box to continue receiving and displaying broadcast television after the transition occurs. Staff will be preparing materials for City residents for an upcoming newsletter article; more information is available at www.dtvtransition.org. *(City TV)*

11. Takoma Park Elementary School Addition Community Meeting April 23: City staff will host a meeting to review the plans and other materials related to the Takoma Park Elementary School Addition Montgomery County Planning Board review. The meeting will be at 7 p.m. in the Hydrangea Room, at the Community Center, 7600 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park. The meeting is in preparation for a presentation to the City Council that is now scheduled for Monday, April 28th. For more information on this process, please contact Ilona Blanchard at 301-891-7205. *(Housing and Community Development)*